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## Spray Painting Your Radio For \$2

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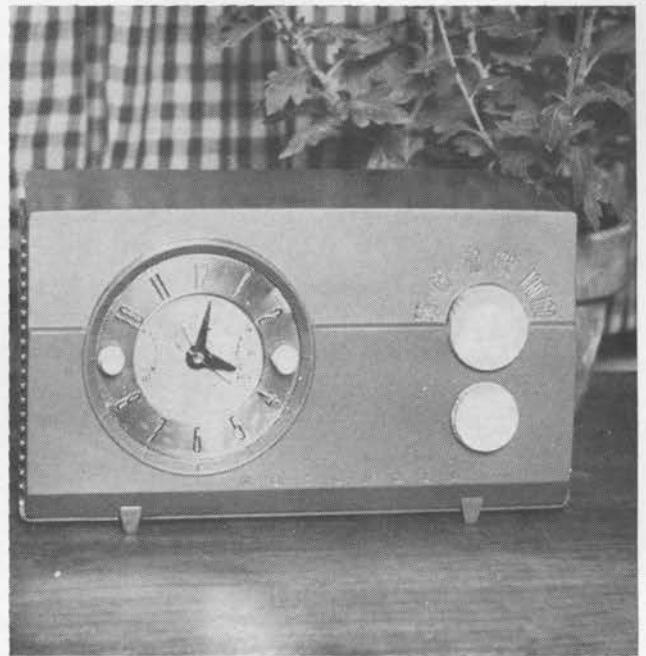
# Spray Paint Your Radio For \$2

By Janice Furman, H. Ec. 4

For \$2 you can transform your metal or plastic radio (not wooden)\* into a matching accessory for your room. Using spray paint, even the amateur will get professional results.

Select a paint of desired color at a paint dealer's. Or check with an auto accessory shop for a wide selection of aerosol touch-up paints.

*A quick easy way to give a new look to your radio.*



Be sure the radio's surface is smooth. If the original paint is in good condition, begin with sanding operations. Otherwise follow directions for paint removal.

Select a well-ventilated room, away from sources of heat. Use a table at least 3 feet square. Cover with newspapers. Adequate lighting on all sides is essential. The entire process of paint removal and spraying will take an evening's work.



Remove or mask parts of radio (knobs, clock face, etc.) that should remain unpainted. Carefully read complete instructions on can of paint remover. Pour a part of liquid into a wide-mouthed container. Cap can. Cautiously stroke on an even coat of remover, allowing no excess to drip into radio. Re-brushing an area will cause uneven removal. Check can for time required for removal. If the liquid is allowed to dry, removal becomes difficult. The surface is ready to scrape when paint blisters and peels. If no blistering occurs in time suggested by directions, apply another coat.



After paint has loosened, scrape with long, firm strokes. Use steel wool to remove paint from crevices or stubborn areas. A professionally finished product requires that surface be completely free of old paint.

## MATERIALS

### Around the house:

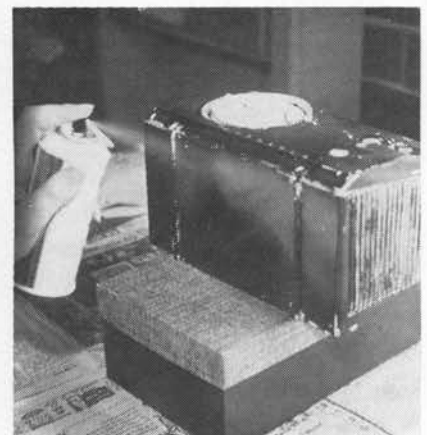
Fine sandpaper  
Clean, lint-free rags  
Wide-mouthed container  
Steel wool  
Newspapers  
Masking tape  
Screwdriver  
Putty knife  
Old paint brush, paint, dust-free

### To Purchase:

Spray paint, 1 can  
Paint remover, 1 can

Roughen surface with fine sandpaper. If you used paint remover, wipe surface with cloth dipped in detergent solution. Rinse, wipe and allow to thoroughly dry. Radio should be dust-free before proceeding.

Raise radio above the level of table. Check directions on paint can. Shake for 1 minute. Test your spraying skill on newspaper until you can control mist. Spray with fast, light, short strokes, keeping nozzle 10 to 12 inches from surface.



Several coats are required. The first being a mist will not cover original surface. Test paint on bottom of radio. Let dry until paint does not color finger when touched lightly. The second coat should cover all surfaces evenly. Apply third coat if necessary. Dry 24 hours before replacing knobs.

\*Wooden radios can be painted, using spray paint. But more complete directions should be obtained from your local paint dealer.